

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND

CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Paul Krutko

SUBJECT: RESTRUCTURE ARTS

VENTURE FUND

DATE: May 10, 2005

Approved /s/ Date 05/17/05

The Mayor's March Budget Message requested staff to "restructure the Arts Venture Fund so that the FY 2006-07 application process is simplified and easier for arts groups. Consideration should be given to relaxing requirements for matching funds and extending the application period until the funds for the year run out."

The Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) will take the lead on this assignment.

OCA intends to identify, with stakeholder input, the most efficient, responsive process to provide funding for unique arts and cultural opportunities. Anticipated actions include but are not limited to:

- Streamline the application process.
- Design an inclusive set of organizational eligibility standards.
- Define eligible proposals so as to embrace a broad range of projects of exceptional merit.
- Set grant minimums/maximums to leverage available Arts Venture Grant funding for maximum overall community impact by grantees' activities.
- Evaluate the advantages and disincentives of matching fund requirements.
- Develop a simplified application review/approval process to help make possible an ongoing granting opportunity (e.g., utilizing existing advisory bodies rather than seating a special review panel).

/s/
PAUL KRUTKO
Director, Office of Economic Development